

SAINT LOUIS BIRD CLUB

BULLETIN

VOL. 12, No. 3

APRIL, 1943

BIRD CLUB LOYALTY NIGHT

Bird Club Loyalty Night on April 5th will bring Dr. A. A. Allen of Cornell University to the St. Louis University Auditorium at 8 P.M. to present the "bird circus" featured in his lecture, "Listening in on the Home Life of Birds". And we say "bird circus" advisedly, for those restless, carefree creatures we have so much trouble following with our field glasses seem to perform like well-trained entertainers before Dr. Allen's camera and sound recording equipment. There's room for only a few of the highlights here . . . the life story of the Red-winged Blackbird; song of the Bobolink; a baby Gallinule ready to fight when only a few minutes old . . . but the entire film is packed with shots equally as exciting as these. And remember, these beautiful color movies are illustrated with actual bird songs! For several years the Club has presented free, open-to-the-public nature lectures on such a scale that the work has become a civic enterprise. However, when plans for this season were made, to insure the success of the series and to make next season possible, it was found necessary to close the doors for one lecture and charge a fifty-cent admission. The occasion was named Bird Club Loyalty Night and we know Club members will respond. We think too that many friends who have attended our lectures in the past will come to Bird Club Loyalty Night. This is your opportunity to show your appreciation for the Club's past lectures and at the same time spend an evening of good birding with an expert.

MENABONI EXHIBITION

One of the biggest events of the Club's season will be an exhibition of the bird art of Athos Menaboni of Dunwoody, Georgia, to be presented at the St. Louis Public Library, May 1st to 15th. Mr. Menaboni is unquestionably one of the greatest living bird artists and it's a rare treat to see a collection of his works. On Friday evening, May 14th, from 7 to 10 P. M., the closing activity of the Club's season will take place with an open house meeting at the Library Art Department. In addition to the Menaboni art, the Library's priceless Audubons and a selected collection of bird books will round out an evening of browsing and art study you won't want to miss!

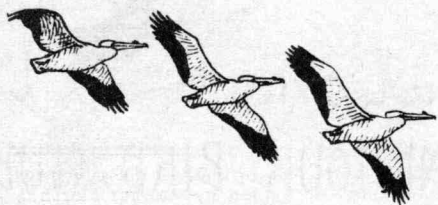
APRIL BIRD WALKS

With inquiries about the April Bird Walks coming in from numerous sources, we have every reason to believe that there will be an unusually heavy demand for the Walks this season. People won't be driving to the country this Spring and consequently will depend on the Sunday morning Walks to get in their bird observations. To meet this demand we have on our present list of leaders and assistants almost too few names. The answer is

simply this: Every Club member with sufficient training who can possibly attend Sunday mornings must volunteer to help. The Walks begin from Jefferson Memorial every Sunday in April at 7:30 A.M. and are scheduled to last until 10 A.M. but you may drop out when necessary. Come and bring your friends.



DR. A. A. ALLEN



BULLETIN HISTORY

It's taken hours and hours of painstaking research to straighten out the very muddled condition of the Bird Club Bulletin's history. The situation was so puzzling because issues of the Bulletin have been lost and the Club has a very incomplete file. The Public Library's file is also incomplete but in much better shape than that of the Club. And to top it all, for a period of several years the Bulletins weren't even numbered as to Volume, so that a couple of years ago when we were determined to put the Bulletin back on its feet, we had no idea what the Volume and Number should be. But a most careful study has cleared the muddle. This issue correctly is Vol. 12, No. 3, and a master set of Bulletins, although incomplete, is now in the Club Secretary's possession with all issues corrected as to Volume and Number. Copies of this list will be mailed to anyone interested in correcting his files. There is only one question in our minds and that is, whether there was a Vol. 7, No. 4 and No. 5.

The Club Bulletin saw the light of day in May, 1932 and its first editor was N. R. Barger. Although it's had its ups and downs, we find there has been a Bulletin every year since that time. Mrs. Martin Shaughnessy has graciously given the Club several back numbers and really inspired this history study. We now appeal to others of our members to help us complete our files. We need these copies: Vol. 1, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 3, Nos. 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9; Vol. 4, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; Vol. 5, Nos. 2, 3, 8; Vol. 6, No. 1; Vol. 7, No. 3. Won't you help by looking through your files for these Bulletins?

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Alexander Sprunt Jr., lecturer, writer, photographer-extraordinary, and Southern Representative of the National Audubon Society, will bring his all-color motion picture lecture, "Shooting Wildlife with a Camera", to the St. Louis University Auditorium, May 7th, at 8 o'clock. Self-styled "prowler of swamps", few men know the Southern area as he does and fewer still have been able to catch with the lens this region's abundant and colorful wildlife as has Mr. Sprunt. All of us who have followed his still-shots for Audubon Magazine can vouch for an evening of exciting bird photography. Here is your chance to take a trip through Southern swamps and prairies with a veteran leader of Audubon Wildlife Tours . . . and without even getting your feet wet . . . so let's all be there!

We have been notified that a deliberate attempt is again being made to place the administration of natural wildlife resources in the hands of politicians by introduction of a resolution before the House of Representatives of our state known as "Joint and Concurrent Resolution No. 4". Write your Representative or Senator to voice his opposition to this bill.

MAIL THE ENCLOSED ALLEN LECTURE

ST. LOUIS BIRD CLUB BULLETIN

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THE SPRING CENSUS

Decision has been made by the Board of Directors to hold our Annual Spring Census as usual this year at Creve Coeur Lake, since it can be reached by streetcar. The date, Sunday May 9th; the time, 6:30 A.M.; the place, site of the old Sea Scout Base.

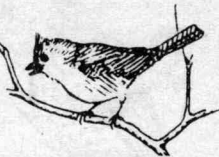
ALFRED M. BAILEY

March 2nd was a day of real Rocky Mountain weather, ten above and snow, but a desert fairyland and airplane views of the fantastic Grand and Bryce Canyons warmed up an appreciative audience of 700 bird fans who heard scholarly Alfred M. Bailey, Director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History, lecture on "Color in the Southwest". Certainly, most of us had forgotten Old Man Winter while watching Mr. Bailey's pictures of Vermillion Flycatchers and Broad-tailed Hummingbirds feeding their young; the saucy Saw-whet Owl; beautiful flowers that formed solid banks of color. The last scenes, magnificent shots of the Sage Grouse drumming on snow-covered Colorado prairies, brought us out of the desert and prepared us for the cold trip home.

If this space () has a check-mark in it, your 1943 dues are still due. Sorry, but this is the last Bulletin to any member in arrears.



Observations



Here's something to shoot at . . . an American Raven. Now, we're not going on record in favor of shooting American Ravens, particularly when they don't even begin to compare with hen's teeth in these parts, but what we mean is, if you're shooting for the "bird of the year", you're going to have to bring out some mighty long-range artillery even to begin to touch this observation: An American Raven; Jan. 17th; Harbor Point Village, St. Charles County; observers, Alberta Bolinger, Helen Einspanier, Hattie Ettinger, and Cecilia Lehmann.

Other good observations: Two Greater Scaup Ducks; Jan. 1st; Harbor Point Village; Bolinger, Drury, Einspanier, Heckler, O'Moran, Reese, Short. Two Baird's Sandpipers; Feb. 28th; Horseshoe Lake, Ill.; Miss L. R. Ernst. And best news of all . . . Canvas-back on the come-back! At Harbor Point; Feb. 20th; 500 in one flock.

One of our out-state members, Mrs. C. E. Peterson of Madison, Minnesota writes an interesting account of her last fall bird banding. Total species banded, 40; individuals, 241. Ludlow Hill reports a remarkable return: On Jan. 18th, 1942 he banded a Brown Creeper at Seckmann, Mo. This bird migrated north to nest and on Jan. 17th, 1943 was banded again by Lud at the identical spot! Incidentally, one of our members was recently refused a bird banding permit. The reason: No new permits to be issued for the duration because of the shortage of aluminum of which bird bands are made!

Beginning March 25 and continuing into May, Miss Clara Heising will lead Bird walks at Shaw's Garden every Thursday morning. The walks start from the entrance gate at 7:30 A.M. and last until 8:30 A.M.

Our thanks to Raymond L. Herbert, Club member, who has generously submitted drawings which will be used on all future Bird Club posters.

We're counting on every member to make immediate return on the Allen lecture tickets. If you need additional tickets, contact Cecilia Lehmann, EV. 0130.

The Club is happy to have made possible a lecture appearance by Alexander Sprunt, Jr. before soldiers in the hospital unit at Jefferson Barracks when he visits St. Louis in May, the National Audubon Society cooperating.

Here's a good description of the pleasures of bird study as written by teacher Florence Goodwin of Portland, Maine, when ordering a set of the Club's Grossenheider bird stamps, "I have just found, coming home from school, a flock of Redpolls talking over their situation in very quiet, sweet tunes. It made a lot of troublesome matter leave the foreground of my mind."

Remember, 98 species of birds were seen on last April's Bird Walks. Be there, and see them this year!

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Who's Who?



The Club has lost three staunch friends, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Berkowitz and little Miss Berkowitz, now of Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Berkowitz have always given generously of their time and talents to all Club activities and their daughter is well on the way to becoming a bird student in her own right, we understand. We'll certainly miss them at meetings, on field trips, on the April Walks, and at all times . . . but wish them Happy Birding in their new home.

Martha Lucinda Bernet, Club member and former teacher, has joined her three brothers in the Service, having recently been sworn into the WAVES as an officer candidate.

Our new Secretary, Anne Bayha, has taken over her duties naturally, having previously served in this same capacity for the Blewett Bird Club. Under the sponsorship of Norman R. D. Jones, the Blewett organization was started in 1935 and Anne was one of the charter members. After hearing Father Link speak at one of our lectures, Anne joined the Club and was soon acting as an assistant leader on the April Bird Walks. She has been active in the Club ever since that time and now she has willingly accepted the exacting duties of Club Secretary with all the work that job entails.

With a brother in the Army, one in the Navy, and still another in the Coast Guard, George Renard, Bird Club member, has made it a four star family represented in every branch of the Service by joining the Marines.

Bill Holzmark, instrument technician, air arm of the Atlantic Fleet, recently spent a few days in St. Louis in the process of transferring from Chicago to Norfolk.

During their brief visits to St. Louis, Dick Grossenheider and James Earl Comfort rounded up a group of friends from the Club for a bird walk at Glendale. Unfortunately, the weather-man was most uncooperative and no unusual "finds" were reported in spite of the combined efforts of these two ornithological Sherlocks. However, the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and our St. Louis members heard many an interesting bird yarn from these two Missouri Travellers.

New Sustaining member since March: Mrs. Nelson Lawnin. Changed from Active to Sustaining: Miss Helen Einspanier.

New Active members since March: Miss L. Dannenberger, Rudolf Fucholski, Mrs. G. M. Johnson, Miss Evelyn Koenig, Miss Hildgarde Kramer, Miss Anna Pavlat, Dr. A. O. Rosskopf, Paul Bakewell, Jr., Miss Grace Haren, Miss Myrtle Kunemann, Mrs. V. Pflanz, Raymond Grass, Dr. Frank E. McKillop, Dr. C. W. Scherry, Miss Lillian Templeton.

Latest Club members to enter the Services: Joseph E. Vollmar, Jr. in the Army Air Corps; Martin Schweig in the Coast Artillery.

Mrs. Arthur Pfaff and Mrs. E. Kalbfleish are officers of the "Association For American Prisoners Interned By Japan". This splendid organization is a group of relatives of Japanese-held prisoners who have organized to pool news from the interned men, to pool news going to them, and to endeavor in every way to bring relief and hasten their release. Call Mrs. Pfaff for details.

A Robin recently made a non-stop flight from America to Eire! In this case it was a "Round-Robin" sent by a dozen Club members and friends to member Lt. O. A. Wilson, stationed on the banks of the Shannon.

The following members of the Southwest High School Bird Club, sponsored by Norman R. D. Jones, are affiliate members of the St. Louis Bird Club. Irl Tremain, Ellsworth Moncrieff, Morrie Beitch, Francis Miramonti, Kathleen Mayer, Marjorie Wolf, Selma Baker, Immogene Angle, Gilbert Meier, Dorothy Strossner, Frank Augustine, Richard Cohen, Paul McFadden, Bill Barnham.

Dr. George Miksch Sutton is now Captain G. M. Sutton, Air Corps, Arctic Section, ADTIC, 315 Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

John H. Gerard, P. M. 3/c, can be reached by addressing U. S. C. G. R. 590-299, C. G. C., Bi BB, c.o. Fleet Post-Office, New York City.

The St. Louis Bird Club
presents
DR. A. A. ALLEN
World renowned ornithologist of Cornell University

"LISTENING IN ON THE HOME-LIFE OF BIRDS"

All-color motion picture lecture
ILLUSTRATED WITH ACTUAL BIRD SONGS

Monday, April 5th, 8 P.M.
St. Louis University Auditorium, 3642 Lindell
Open-to-the-public

BIRD CLUB LOYALTY NIGHT
Admission 50 cents

Dear Out-of-Town Member:

Recently members of the Club who live within attendance distance were sent sets of 4 tickets each for the Allen lecture with the request that they urge their friends to attend. The thought occurs to the Board that some of you who are out-of-town and can't be present at BIRD CLUB LOYALTY NIGHT might want a soldier or sailor to attend in your place. That way you'd be taking part in BIRD CLUB LOYALTY NIGHT too (although frankly we feel your're very loyal to continue your membership since you're not in town, and therefore certainly not obligated to be more loyal!). But just in case you want to have your seat at the Allen lecture turned over by us to the U.S.O., simply address your request to Cecilia Lehmann, 5129 Natural Bridge, St. Louis, Mo. Tickets are fifty cents each.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wayne Short, President